

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please amend Claims 20 and 28 as follows:

B¹ 20. (Amended) In a copy protection system including a receiver interconnected to a descrambler module via a link, a method of copy protecting signals flowing from the descrambler to the receiver via the link, comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving a digital signal in the receiver, the digital signal including a scrambled audio-visual signal;
- (b) generating a copy protection data signal representing copy protection data;
- (c) transmitting the digital signal from the receiver to the descrambler module via the link, and transmitting the data signal from the receiver to the descrambler module;
- (d) descrambling the scrambled audio-visual signal in the descrambler module to obtain said audiovisual signal;
- (e) converting the audio-visual signal in the descrambler module into a copy protected signal using a copy protection function, wherein the function utilizes said data signal;
- (f) transmitting the copy protected signal from the descrambler to the receiver via the link; and
- (g) reconvertng the copy protected signal to the audio-visual signal in the receiver using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse copy protection function utilizes

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said data signal.

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28. (Amended) A copy protection system comprising a receiver and a descrambler module interconnected via a link, wherein:

(a) the descrambler module includes: (1) a first communication interface for communicating with the receiver via the link, (2) a descrambler for descrambling an incoming scrambled audiovisual signal from the receiver via the link, and (3) a converter for converting the audiovisual signal into a copy protected signal using a copy protection function, wherein the converter receives a data signal from the receiver representing copy protection data such that the copy protection function utilizes the copy protection data from the receiver to generate the copy protected signal, and for providing the copy protected signal to the receiver via the link;

(b) the receiver includes: (1) a second communication interface for communicating with the descrambler module via the link, (2) a signal generator for generating a copy protection data signal representing copy protection data and providing said data signal to the descrambler via the link, (3) a reconverter for converting an incoming copy protected signal from the descrambler back into said audiovisual signal using an inverse copy protection function, wherein the inverse function utilizes said copy protection data;

wherein in response to receiving a digital signal including a scrambled audiovisual signal, the receiver transmits the digital signal and said data signal representing the copy protection data to the descrambler module via the link, and

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wherein in response to receiving the digital signal and the data signal representing the copy protection data from the receiver, the descrambler module descrambles and converts the audio-visual signal into said copy protected signal, and transmits the copy protected signal to the receiver via said link, whereby the signals flowing from the descrambler module to the receiver via the link are protected against copying.

Please add new claims 33-41, as follows:

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--33. (New) A method of copy protecting signals flowing from a descrambler module to a receiver via a link, comprising the steps of:

- (a) generating a copy protection data signal by utilizing a scheme which uses random number generation;
- (b) receiving a digital signal from the receiver via the link, said digital signal including a scrambled signal;
- (c) Descrambling the scrambled signal to obtain a descrambled signal;
- (d) converting said descrambled signal into a copy protected signal using said copy protection data signal; and
- (e) transmitting the copy protected signal to the receiver via the link.

34. (New) The method of Claim 33, wherein the step (a) of generating said copy protection data signal includes generating the copy protection data signal in the receiver.

35. (New) The method of Claim 34, further comprising the step of transmitting said copy protection data signal from the receiver to the descrambler module via the link.

36. (New) The method of Claim 33, wherein said digital signal in step (b) is encoded and scrambled.

37. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the descrambled module comprises a PCMIA card.

38. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the link comprises one or more communication mediums configured for carrying digital signals.

39. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the receiver and the descrambler module utilize 1S679 compatible interfaces for communication via the link.

40. (New) The method of claim 33, further comprising the steps of (f) reconvert the copy protected signal to the digital signal in the receiver using said copy protection data signal.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, further comprising the step of (g) decoding the digital signal in the receiver after the step (f) of reconvert.--
